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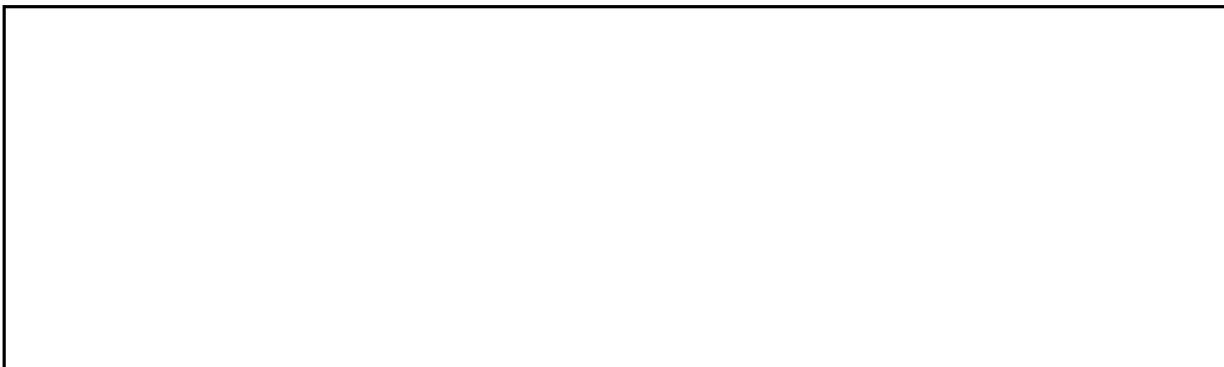
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State Dept. review completed

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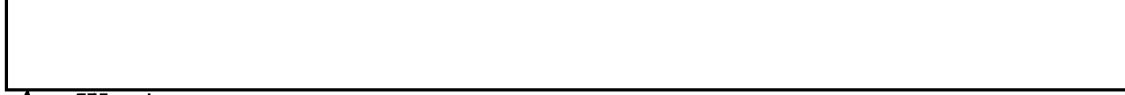
SUMMARY

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WESTERN EUROPE

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4. Western European Union council drags feet on Saar (page 5).

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4. Western European Union council drags feet on Saar:

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[Redacted] At the first meeting of the permanent council of the Western European Union, held on 9 June in London, no progress was made on the choice of a commissioner to exercise WEU's authority in the Saar because neither the French nor the West Germans wished to discuss the matter, American officials in London report. Furthermore, no candidates were proposed for the commission to supervise the prospective referendum on the French-German agreement of last October on the status of the Saar.

Comment: Appointment and activation of the supervisory commission will be necessary for inauguration of the three-month campaigning period which, under the French-German agreement, must precede the planned referendum. Both the French and Saar governments have hoped that this referendum could be held no later than September.

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